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The Purple Circle

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President Ian Johnston presenting Cadet Under Officer Edward Elias
with his Scholarship and award

Passing Parade

Glenn Linden (Rocky) Roberts passed away on 13 April 2019, aged 73 years. He was a 15th Intake Army apprentice and served in New Guinea with 22 Const Sqn.

Russell Bee passed away on 22 April 2019, aged 89 years and 3 months. Russell served in Vietnam from June 1966 to June 1967 with Australian Army Training Team Vietnam

Charles Peter (Chuck) Bonzas passed away on 1 July 2019, aged 72 years and 7 months. Chuck was a National Serviceman and served in Vietnam from December 1967 to December 1968 with 1 Fd Sqn.

Donald John Duffus OAM passed away on 4 July 2019, aged 71 years and 9 months. Don served in Vietnam from June 1969 to June 1970 with 17 Const sqn.

Peter Raymond Lofthouse passed away on 11 July 2019, aged 83 years and 4 months. He was a Western Australian, born in East Fremantle. Peter served in Vietnam from April 1970 to April 1971 with 17 Const Sqn.

Frank Charles Mallard passed away on 10 August 2019, aged 74 years and 2 months. He was a Western Australian, born in Geraldton. Frank served in Vietnam from September 1965 to September 1966 with 3 Fd Tp and 1 Fd Sqn. He was also a proud Yamatji Elder and WA Senior Citizen of the Year for 2019.

Michael Grubb was reported lost at sea in mid August 2019. Michael was a member of 13 Fd Sqn for 2 years from 2003.

Peter Allan Connors passed away on 22 August 2019, aged 71 years and 3 months. Peter retired in 1986 as RSM at SME. He served in Vietnam from May 1967 to April 1968 with 17 Const Sqn and again from June 1970 to June 1971 with 1 Fd Sqn.

Lawrence Barton (Lawrie) Wright passed away on 25 August 2019 aged 83 years. Laurie was a 7th Intake Army Apprentice electrician and served with 22 Const Sqn, Independent Const Tp PMG and 32 Small Ships Sqn.

Darcy McKenzie passed away on 28 August 2019 aged 71 years and 7 months. Darcy was a National Serviceman and served in Vietnam with 1 Fd Sqn from October 1970 to September 1971.

Bryan Henry (Bret) Nolan passed away on 31 August 2019 aged 86 years. Bret served in Vietnam from March 1967 to March 1968 with 1 Fd Sqn.

Peter Vandenberg passed away on 13 September 2019 aged 71 years. Peter served in Vietnam from March 1970 to March 1971 with 1 Fd Sqn.

LEST WE FORGET

Annual General Meeting

On Sunday 25 August, the Association held their AGM and elected a new committee to lead the Association for the next 12 months.

The newly elected committee is the same as for the previous year with the following appointed members –

Office Bearers

President -- Ian Johnston

Vice President – Russell McEntyre

Secretary – Trevor Jones

Treasurer – Peter Billington

Committee Members

Neville Clark, Len Copley, Trevor Johnson, Graham McKenzie-Smith, Steve O’Neil, Lynne Reynolds, Paul Talma, and Ross Byron (13 Fd Sqn Rep).

Geoff Simpson was elected as the Association Auditor.

Congratulations to all the above elected members.

Farewell and Welcome

On 30 June, COL Geoff Simpson OAM RFD retired as the Colonel Commandant RAE Western Region after 17 years in the position. We wish you well, put your feet up as you now have one less hat to wear.



On 1 July, MAJGEN Craig Williams OAM, was appointed to the position of Colonel Commandant Royal Australian Engineers, Western Region and we welcome you to your new position here in WA.

MAJGEN Williams joined the Army in 1975 attending RMC Duntroon and graduated in 1979. His postings here in WA included two postings with 22 Const Sqn and one with CE Branch HQ 5 MD as Garrison Engineer. When transferred to Sydney, he held various positions within 1 Const Regt.

In 1991, MAJGEN Williams transferred to the Army Reserve where he held several command and administrative positions in Sydney and Canberra.

In December 2014, MAJGEN Williams retired from the Army.

Waterloo Dinner

Another successful Waterloo Dinner was held at the Burswood on Swan Reception Centre on Friday 28th June. There was a total of 66 Sappers attending of which 16 were Association members.

The Signals representative this year was LTCOL Bob Coventry (Retired).

Extracts from **Waterloo Dinner Address – 2019** by Brigadier John Carey CSC, HOC, RAE.

There were three themes in the address –

Sappers conduct the dangerous, dirty, and demanding tasks that enable Joint Force to live, move and fight. The Corps continues to develop ingenious, practical solutions to major engineering challenges often in the most inhospitable conditions.

Our people from uniquely skilled, adaptive and prepared teams drawn from the total force. Since the Government's recent announcement to be more involved in our region, there has been an unprecedented level of exercises both in Australia and overseas, including deployments to Tonga, Malaysia, Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Vanuatu Antarctica and the United States.

Investment in our people, equipment and emerging technology will enhance the Joint Force in a congested future operating environment. SME is already doing their best to make this a reality. The ADF's Engineer Centre of Excellence and 'Home of the Sapper', continues to deliver our full suite of Engineer initial, promotion and specialist courses for all three Services and allied partners while at the same time improving training, supporting our modernisation efforts and introducing new concepts and equipment.

Once a Sapper, you are always a Sapper.

Sappers are innovative and cunning – but embody the spirit of our nation.

Sappers are professional and humble – but if threatened, will become your worst nightmare.

Sappers are courteous and helpful – but ferocious in battle and will never leave a mate behind.

Sappers have unique technical skills – but care passionately about Family and Friends.

As a Corps, we are good, but we have an opportunity to go to great.

Sappers lead the way.

Ubique.



Head of Corps RAE Brig John Carey, left, accepts the Netherlands Resistance Memorial Cross posthumously awarded to Lt John Appleby from Netherlands Defence Attaché Lt-Col Elmar Hermans. Photo: Cpl Veronica O'Hara

Resistance fighter honoured

Cpl Veronica O'Hara

AN ENGINEER officer executed by the Japanese in WWII was posthumously presented the Resistance Memorial Cross by the Netherlands Defence Attaché in Canberra on July 5.

It was awarded to Australian Lt John Leslie Appleby, an escaped POW and member of the Dutch Resistance on Java where he was betrayed, recaptured then executed in 1943.

Head of Corps RAE Brig John Carey said Lt Appleby was a remarkable man – architect, soldier, resistance fighter and spy.

“What’s so unique about him is that after he escaped, he continued to support the Allied operation despite the threat of recapture and subsequent execution,” Brig Carey said.

Lt Appleby was born in Sydney in 1916 and joined the Citizen Military Forces as an engineer officer at the outbreak of war. He served in the Middle East with 2/6 Fd Coy, RAE.

After the Allied victory in Syria, Lt Appleby was returning home when a number of units, including the 2/6, went ashore at Batavia (now Jakarta) to help the Netherlands East Indies forces defend aerodromes and oil supplies from the advancing Japanese Army.

Japanese forces were too strong and within weeks, Australians were ordered

to surrender. A number of soldiers “took to the bush”, most were recaptured, however, Lt Appleby was never seen again and his fate only known when his former commanding officer, Maj Leslie Robertson, investigated in the 1980s.

The Resistance Memorial Cross was posthumously awarded to Lt Appleby by the Netherlands in the 1980s but never claimed.

Brig Carey accepted the award on behalf of Lt Appleby from Netherlands’ Defence Attaché Lt-Col Elmar Hermans.

The Resistance Memorial Cross will be placed in a future display on 2/6 Fd Coy in the Museum of Military Engineering at Holsworthy, Sydney.

Lt Appleby was also awarded the Australian Commendation for Gallantry in 2018.

Lt-Col Hermans said the heroic actions of Lt Appleby, and his three resistance friends who were executed together, was an example to all of us.

“My predecessor, Col Harold Jacobs, was able to make a solid case in front of the Australian Defence Honours and Awards Appeals Tribunal and stated ‘it is never too late to recognise the service and sacrifice of brave men and women’,” Lt-Col Hermans said.

After the war, Lt Appleby’s remains were recovered and re-buried with full military honours in the Netherlands Field of Honour cemetery at Ancol in Jakarta.

Army Aboriginal Community Assistance Program

Soldiers will spend three months improving infrastructure and providing training and health services for of the Pilbara community of Jigalong, writes **Capt Simon Bleechmore**.

THE Army Aboriginal Community Assistance Program (AACAP) contingent will spend three months with the remote Jigalong community, improving relations and infrastructure in the remote East Pilbara community.

The 26th AACAP contingent was greeted with a traditional Welcome to Country on May 29 and danced with the Martu people.

Army Band entertained 300 residents and soldiers with rock classics.

OC 21 Const Sqn Maj Dan Palmer said his team of training and health specialists were providing community development programs, while his engineers and plant operators were keen to begin their construction projects.

"Our advance party arrived here on May 10 and have completed Camp Birt, our construction camp outside of town," Maj Palmer said.

"We can now focus all our technical expertise on the building projects in and around Jigalong itself.

"After such a long road convoy, the whole contingent is very excited to receive a wonderful welcome from the traditional owners.

"I'm sure our team will enjoy their interaction with residents of all ages, who are participating in our community development programs over the next three months here in Jigalong."

The Welcome to Country was led by Jigalong Community Council chair Margaret Samson.

Ms Samson encouraged Jigalong resi-

After such a long road convoy, the whole contingent is very excited to receive such a wonderful welcome from the traditional owners.

– Maj Dan Palmer,
OC 21 Const Sqn

dents to participate in the Army activities.

"This ceremony is a chance to begin work with the Army and acknowledge some of the traditions we hold with our country," Ms Samson said.

AACAP will improve Jigalong community facilities including major works on local roads to ensure wet-weather access.

It will also run personal development programs including accredited training in guiding, construction and hospitality, and health and veterinarian programs.

The program is scheduled for completion in late August.

Annual Subscriptions

Membership subs were due on 1st July and the Treasurer has advised that many subs are still outstanding. If you have not yet paid, payment can be by direct debit/deposit to the Association's Bank of Queensland account, BSB # 126548 Account # 28326462 with Subs and your name as identification or by cheque posted to: - The Treasurer, PO Box 94, Dianella, WA 6059.

13 Field Squadron News

Sappers in the Philippines

Sappers from 13 Field Squadron have spent the last 8 weeks on deployment in the Philippines.

Lead by CAPT Paul Sanders, CPL Will Rickard and 4 Sappers departed Perth on Monday 22 July for a week of familiarisation training with 2CER at Enoggera before leaving for the Philippines on Monday 29 July.

Their role in the group deployment is to instruct soldiers of the Philippine Army on explosives and demolitions and search methods and techniques.

The Sappers are due to arrive back in Perth on Friday 20 September 2019.

Names on the Life Members Honour Board

WX27985 Cpl Thomas Ronald Beard was born in Perth on 1 December 1921. He joined the CMF in 1938 and then enlisted for active service on 19 July 1942.

Ron served with 13 Fd Sqn in WA, NT and in New Britain rising to the rank of Corporal. On his return to WA, he was discharged on 30 November 1945 and re-joined the CMF and 13 Fd Sqn where he was CSM from 1951 to 1961.

Ron was a long-standing member of the Association, filling the position of President 1955 and 1956, and Secretary/Treasurer from 1977 to 1995. Ron was given Life Membership in 1990.

WX26283 Lt Trevor Albert Davey was born in Perth on 18 March 1918 and joined the Army on 18 July 1942 and assigned to the RAE and 7th Australian Army Troops Company.

The 7th Army Troops company was tasked with strengthening bridges and upgrading roads from Perth to Darwin to allow for tanks to be transported north. This included the construction of a new bridge over the Moore River. They were also involved in works around Darwin. In April 1945 the Unit moved to Bougainville and were based at Torokina.

On his return to Australia, Trevor was discharged from the Army on 21 May 1946.

He was a long serving member of the Association, filling the chair as president from 1974 to 1976 and again from 1984 to 1990. Trevor was given Life Membership in 1990.

Army Cadet Scholarship Award



*Royal Australian Engineers
Association of Western Australia (Inc)*



*Annual Cadet Scholarship is
Awarded to the
Regional Cadet Under Officer
of the year.*

*The award for 2019 is awarded
To Cadet Under Officer
Edward Elias.*

*Ian Johnston
President
Royal Australian Engineers Association of
Western Australia (Inc)*

Dated: 14 July 2019

On Sunday 14th July, Ian Johnston, Trevor Jones and Peter Billington attended the Army Cadet Corps graduation parade held at the 10LH parade ground.

All the drill including the march-on, right dress, march pass and the advance in review order brought back fond memories of my own graduation parade at Balcombe.

It was a proud moment to see young cadets perform to such a high standard.



Ian Johnston, CUO Edward Elias, Trevor Jones, Peter Billington and LTCOL Trevor Williams, 2IC Army Cadet Corps, Perth

Remember Back When

There has been an article in the newspaper recently about a floating swimming pool in the Swan River near Elizabeth Quay. How many members remember the original Perth Pool



Did You Know



TIRES:

Tires are male, because they go bald easily and are often over inflated



HAMMERS:

Male, because in the last 5000 years, they've hardly changed at all, and are occasionally handy to have around.



THE REMOTE CONTROL:

Female. Ha! You probably thought it would be male, but consider this: It easily gives a man pleasure, he'd be lost without it, and while he doesn't always know which buttons to push, he just keeps trying

Next Meeting

Our next general meeting will be held on Sunday 22 September and our last meeting for the year is scheduled for Sunday 17 November. Dates for meetings in the New Year will be in the December "Purple Circle".

Website

Our website has been updated with the latest information and may be viewed by googling - www.wasappers.com.au

The following flyer was received via email. The Centre is a new support service for all ex-service and serving personal living in the northern suburbs. The centre has been in operation for about 12 months.

Veteran's Support Centre Joondalup W.A. (VSCJ)



Operated by Volunteer Veterans & their Families For Veterans & their Families

Providing Advocacy and Welfare support to the Veterans community.

RSLWA Welfare provides a full range of welfare services to the veterans community including allied, current serving members and their dependants.

Veteran = Anyone who is serving or who has served in the Australian Defence Force, regardless of where you served.

Location: Heathridge Community Centre, 16 Sail Terrace, Heathridge.

Drop in for a visit and have a cup of tea, coffee, pick up DVA forms, check out the small library, purchase memorabilia, or just have a chat with our Volunteers

Opening Times:

Tuesdays: Opened from 11.00 am—4.00 pm

Thursdays: Soldiers & Sirens (by appointment 0418 910 665) 8.30 am— 1.00 pm

Thursdays: Opened from 1.00 pm-6.00 pm

Email: vscjoondalup@hotmail.com

Mobile: 0437 378 498 (24/7)



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RSLWA and the
City of Joondalup



If you live in the northern suburbs, you are asked to pass this message on to all ex-service personal in your area